

Assembly Bill No. 1571

CHAPTER 546

An act to amend Sections 5847 and 5848 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to mental health.

[Approved by Governor October 11, 2009. Filed with
Secretary of State October 11, 2009.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1571, Committee on Veterans Affairs. Mental health services: county plans: veterans.

Existing law, the Bronzan-McCorquodale Act, contains provisions governing the operation and financing of community mental health services for the mentally disordered in every county through locally administered and locally controlled community mental health programs. Existing law, the Mental Health Services Act, an initiative measure enacted by the voters as Proposition 63 at November 2, 2004, statewide general election, establishes the Mental Health Services Fund to fund various county mental health programs. The act may be amended by the Legislature only by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of both houses and only so long as the amendment is consistent with and furthers the intent of the act. The Legislature may clarify procedures and terms of the act by majority vote.

Existing law requires each county mental health program to prepare and submit a 3-year plan to be updated at least annually and approved by the department after review and comment by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. Existing law requires the plan to be developed with specified local stakeholders.

This bill would require the local stakeholder planning group to include veterans and representatives from veterans organizations and would require the department, as part of its review of the county plan, to inform the Department of Veterans Affairs of county plans that have outreach programs specifically for veterans or that provide services specifically for veterans.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 5847 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, is amended to read:

5847. Integrated Plans for Prevention, Innovation, and System of Care Services.

(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to streamline the approval processes of the State Department of Mental Health and the Mental Health Services

Oversight and Accountability Commission of programs developed pursuant to Sections 5891 and 5892.

(b) Each county mental health program shall prepare and submit a three-year plan which shall be updated at least annually and approved by the department after review and comment by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. The plan and update shall include all of the following:

(1) A program for prevention and early intervention in accordance with Part 3.6 (commencing with Section 5840).

(2) A program for services to children in accordance with Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850), to include a program pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 18250) of Part 6 of Division 9 or provide substantial evidence that it is not feasible to establish a wraparound program in that county.

(3) A program for services to adults and seniors in accordance with Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800).

(4) A program for innovations in accordance with Part 3.2 (commencing with Section 5830).

(5) A program for technological needs and capital facilities needed to provide services pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800), Part 3.6 (commencing with Section 5840), and Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850). All plans for proposed facilities with restrictive settings shall demonstrate that the needs of the people to be served cannot be met in a less restrictive or more integrated setting.

(6) Identification of shortages in personnel to provide services pursuant to the above programs and the additional assistance needed from the education and training programs established pursuant to Part 3.1 (commencing with Section 5820).

(7) Establishment and maintenance of a prudent reserve to ensure the county program will continue to be able to serve children, adults, and seniors that it is currently serving pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800), the Adult and Older Adult Mental Health System of Care Act, Part 3.6 (commencing with Section 5840), Prevention and Early Intervention Programs, and Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850), the Children's Mental Health Services Act, during years in which revenues for the Mental Health Services Fund are below recent averages adjusted by changes in the state population and the California Consumer Price Index.

(c) The State Department of Mental Health shall not issue guidelines for the Integrated Plans for Prevention, Innovation, and System of Care Services before January 1, 2012.

(d) The department's review and approval of the programs specified in paragraphs (1) and (4) of subdivision (b) shall be limited to ensuring the consistency of these programs with the other portions of the plan and providing review and comment to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. As part of its review, the department shall inform the Department of Veterans Affairs of county plans that have outreach

programs specifically for veterans or that provide services specifically for veterans.

(e) The programs established pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (b) shall include services to address the needs of transition age youth ages 16 to 25.

(f) Each year the State Department of Mental Health, in consultation with the California Mental Health Directors Association, the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, and the Mental Health Planning Council, shall inform counties of the amounts of funds available for services to children pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850), and to adults and seniors pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800). Each county mental health program shall prepare expenditure plans pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800), and Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850), and updates to the plans developed pursuant to this section. Each expenditure update shall indicate the number of children, adults, and seniors to be served pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800), and Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850), and the cost per person. The expenditure update shall include utilization of unspent funds allocated in the previous year and the proposed expenditure for the same purpose.

(g) (1) The department shall evaluate each proposed expenditure plan and determine the extent to which each county has the capacity to serve the proposed number of children, adults, and seniors pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800), and Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850); the extent to which there is an unmet need to serve that number of children, adults, and seniors; and determine the amount of available funds; and provide each county with an allocation from the funds available. The department shall give greater weight for a county or a population which has been significantly underserved for several years. The department shall approve, deny, or request information on a county expenditure plan or update no later than 60 days upon receipt.

(2) The department shall only evaluate those programs in a county expenditure plan or update that have not previously been approved or that have previously identified problems which have been conveyed to the county. The department shall distribute the funds for renewal of the previously approved programs contained in the county expenditure plan or update prior to approval of the county expenditure plan or update.

(h) A county mental health program shall include an allocation of funds from a reserve established pursuant to paragraph (6) of subdivision (b) for services pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (b) in years in which the allocation of funds for services pursuant to subdivision (e) are not adequate to continue to serve the same number of individuals as the county had been serving in the previous fiscal year.

SEC. 2. Section 5848 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

5848. (a) Each plan and update shall be developed with local stakeholders, including adults and seniors with severe mental illness, families of children, adults, and seniors with severe mental illness, providers of

services, law enforcement agencies, education, social services agencies, veterans, representatives from veterans organizations, and other important interests. A draft plan and update shall be prepared and circulated for review and comment for at least 30 days to representatives of stakeholder interests and any interested party who has requested a copy of the draft plans.

(b) The mental health board established pursuant to Section 5604 shall conduct a public hearing on the draft plan and annual updates at the close of the 30-day comment period required by subdivision (a). Each adopted plan and update shall include any substantive written recommendations for revisions. The adopted plan or update shall summarize and analyze the recommended revisions. The mental health board shall review the adopted plan or update and make recommendations to the county mental health department for revisions.

(c) The department shall establish requirements for the content of the plans. The plans shall include reports on the achievement of performance outcomes for services pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800), Part 3.6 (commencing with Section 5840), and Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850) funded by the Mental Health Services Fund and established by the department.

(d) Mental health services provided pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 5800), and Part 4 (commencing with Section 5850), shall be included in the review of program performance by the California Mental Health Planning Council required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 5772 and in the local mental health board's review and comment on the performance outcome data required by paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 5604.2.